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DE RUEHMS #0197 0651433 ZNY CCCCC ZZH P 051433Z MAR 08 FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9352 INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

CONFIDENTIAL MUSCAT 000197

STPDTS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/05/2018

TAGS: PARM PREL KNNP MNUC IR MU SUBJECT: UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1803: OMANI RESPONSE

REF: STATE 21770

Classified By: Ambassador Gary A. Grappo for Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

(C) Pol-Econ Chief relayed reftel points on March 5 to Humaid al-Ma'ani, Office Director for Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) Director General Sayyid Badr al-Busaidi. copy of UN Security Council Resolution 1803 (including annexes) and the P5 plus 1 Ministers' Statement was delivered to the MFA via diplomatic note. In response, al-Ma'ani stated that Oman abides by UN Security Council resolutions, but added that the government continues to believe that sanctions against Iran are counter-productive and strengthen hard-line attitudes in Tehran.

12. (SBU) Aside from wire service news reports on Resolution 1803, there have been no editorials or opinion pieces in local press on the latest UN sanctions against Iran. Omani internet chatrooms to date have also been relatively quiet on the subject. GRAPPO